

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus useful in the separation of solids from a diluted, wet concrete mixture, ~~such as wet concrete mixtures carried~~ within the mixing drum of a concrete mixture delivery vehicle, the apparatus comprising:

(a) a free standing first container having an internal volume of at least about one half gallon, the first container having a drain port and a top opening;

(b) a strainer disposed within the first container so as to bifurcate the internal volume of the first container into a first portion and a second portion, the second portion including the drain port of the first container, the strainer having a plurality of apertures;

(c) a first container drain port shut-off valve for alternatively opening and closing the drain port of the first container;

(d) one or more connectors for attaching the first container to the pour chute of a concrete mixture delivery vehicle;

(e) a second container separate from the mixing drum of the concrete mixture delivery vehicle, the second container having an internal volume of at least about 5 gallons, the second container being attached to the concrete mixture delivery vehicle and having an inlet port and a drain port; and

(f) a transfer conduit for connecting the drain port of the first container in fluid tight communication with the inlet port of the second container, so that liquid within the second portion of the first container can be gravitated to the second container.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the inlet port of the second container is disposed less than about 6 feet above a horizontal surface upon which the concrete mix delivery vehicle is disposed.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a splash guard disposed around the top opening of the first container, the splash guard being foldable into the first container when the first container is not in use.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first container comprises a side wall and wherein the strainer is an elongate three-dimensional vertical structure having a perforated top wall, a perforated front wall and side wings, the side wings being disposed in abutment with the side wall of the first container so as to define an enclosed volume adjacent to the side wall which provides the second portion of the first container.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the strainer is a basket structure which can be readily lifted out of the first container.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second container further comprises a second container drain port shut-off valve for alternatively opening and closing the drain port of the second container.